

I ask my friends to continue to ask that question of the majority party.

THE ACT OF NO DEAL

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, more and more Americans are recognizing that Donald Trump is unfit to be President—his divisive tactics, his racism, and his mendacity—but this Trump shutdown has shown further that he is truly incapable of being President.

His fabled dealmaking ability appears to be just a television act. When he reaches an agreement, his extremist cohorts will not let him close the deal. He mistakes tweeting for government. He just cannot lead.

Since this Trump shutdown began, this self-described “stable genius” has failed to hold a single bipartisan meeting, nor even make a public appearance, though he did dispatch his son, Eric, to declare—amazingly—that the government shutdown is a “good thing for us.”

It is not a good thing for America. This Congress must lead in supporting the needs of our people and recognizing that we must put America first in this situation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

THE TRUMP SHUTDOWN

(Mr. ESPAILLAT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, this is day three of the Trump shutdown. How many more extensions are Republicans going to ask for before passing a long-term budget? Yes, as we speak right now, the Senate is getting ready to pass yet another temporary continuing resolution until February 8. At the end of this month, we will hear from the President at the State of the Union without having addressed the critical needs of the American people.

The White House and the Republicans in Congress are failing the American people by kicking the can down the road and not passing a budget that will reauthorize CHIP while also funding community health clinics and teaching hospitals, not ensuring protections for 800,000 DREAMers, and not providing disaster relief.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let me take a strong opposition to the racist comments made previous to me by a Member who is one of my colleagues from California. He tried to equate immigration with violent criminals.

Shame on him. Shame on him. DREAMers are not violent criminals. They are members of our Armed Forces, they are teachers, they are workers, and they are aspirations to our Nation.

Shame on him for equating DREAMers with violent criminals.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Here we are, Mr. Speaker, another day to take a deep breath. As you know, our responsibility is to pass a budget that meets the needs of the American people. Since September 30, which was the end of the fiscal year, we have not done that.

Today, we are gathered to do our fifth continuing resolution. You know all the statements that have been made by Secretary Mattis and others about how destructive that is to our national security. I want to make a few points.

First of all, I want to say that a dark cloud is lying over the Capitol, and that is the Trump GOP tax scam. Under that legislation, nearly \$2 trillion will be added to the national debt. That is bad enough in itself, but it also has cast a shadow over the ability of this House to honor its responsibilities to the American people.

We take an oath of office to protect and defend the American people and our Constitution. We know that is our first responsibility, and we stand ready to join in funding our military to do that. So for the Republicans to say that we are shutting down the government because we didn't want—we weren't shutting down the government. You shut down the government.

But let's put that aside for now as we go forward.

One, let us stipulate to the fact that we will all agree that we need to support our troops in the manner that the mission that is established calls for.

Two, the other part of that debate is about the domestic agenda. The domestic agenda includes opioids and veterans, issues like that, that are part of our national security, homeland security, Veterans' Affairs, State Department, and antiterrorism activities at the Justice Department—the list goes on—of things that are part of the security function that are on the domestic side.

Our colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle have been reluctant to support domestic agendas. That is just the way it is, and I think that is one of the reasons the Speaker has increased the defense spending so that he can get their votes even though they didn't want to vote for the domestic spending.

But if we are going to honor the commitment, not the dollar figure that is in the authorization of the Department of Defense bill, and honor the budget agreement, we will be adding \$300 billion to the deficit maintaining parity.

□ 1245

I just want our Republican colleagues to know that when they are voting for a CR that takes us to the next step, that next step, if it honors the commitments that have been made, it will be \$300 billion over and above the \$2 trillion.

I just say that because I have heard you say: Well, we have a big deficit, so

we have to look at Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and all of those initiatives. If we are not going to honor that, and we are not going to honor other commitments because of this tax scam and this Trump shutdown, then we have a problem going forward.

So, yes, we are here about values. It is not about one set of children versus another. It is about our values. The Republicans have put forth what they did with CHIP—which the Senate has never shown much of an interest in—and all of a sudden, CHIP was their chit. CHIP was their chit. They put that on the table, and they said: America is a country of “Sophie's Choice.” You either choose the DREAMers, or you choose the CHIP kids.

We all support all of that. America can take care of all of its children—their safety, their health, and their well-being.

The dark cloud of the tax bill is a real problem as we go forward in the decisions we have to make to meet the needs of the American people.

As Mr. HOYER said, this is a budget debate. The DREAMers part of it is a part that has come into it, but if there never was a DREAMer on the face of the Earth—thank God, there are DREAMers—but if there never were, we still have this challenge: the lack of interest on the part of Republicans in the House to vote for a domestic budget that meets the needs of the American people, using the excuse of the budget deficit, which didn't seem to bother them when they gave away the store to the richest people in the country, the top 1 percent and corporate America.

As we face this decision today, it is a no-drama event, as far as I am concerned. The Senate Democrats' movement, in terms of getting a commitment on how we go forward on the budget and how we go forward on DREAMers, good for them. Our Members will make their decision about how they wish to vote.

But understand this: this isn't just about the DREAMers. This is about who we are as a nation, in terms of honoring what we care about most in our country and how we put that into a budget in terms of fighting the opioid epidemic; meeting the needs of our veterans, especially in terms of infrastructure; issues that relate to the National Institutes of Health and their investments there; CHIP, really, with the community health centers; medical education for primary care doctors; and the list goes on and on.

This will be a lively debate about a number of subjects, as we go forward. But understand this: it is going to increase the national debt. It didn't have to have such an impact if we didn't have the GOP tax scam, which led to the Trump shutdown.

PASS A REAL BUDGET FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. RASKIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I represent 88,000 Federal workers in the Eighth Congressional District of Maryland who want to do their jobs for the American people.

They are DREAMers, too, and they are doers. They work at NIH, NOAA, the National Cancer Institute, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Defense, and the State Department.

My constituents and the people across the country who depend on them are in limbo because of the irresponsibility, the indolence, and the incompetence of President Trump, who called on his tweet machine for a “good shutdown” of the American Government that he barely opened up in the first place.

They worked overtime to get all of the Republicans behind their obscene tax break for the richest 1 percent of the country and foreign investors in Saudi Arabia, China, and the Cayman Islands, but they could not be bothered to pass a budget for the American people, which is our central constitutional function.

They don’t mind shutting down the government for the fifth time in 30 years, as long as their big campaign donors get the huge legislative payoff they are waiting for.

Let’s do our job, and let’s pass a real budget for the American people.

LET’S COME TO A COMPROMISE

(Mr. McNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask both sides of this Chamber to stop bickering and finger-pointing and start listening to each other. Let’s come to a compromise.

This government shutdown is a disgrace to this Congress and hurtful to this country. Both sides are blaming each other, and the American people are shaking their heads in disgust and disbelief.

Both sides have valid points, but, in this case, partial rights actually make a wrong. The government needs continuous funding. The military needs funding. Domestic programs, such as homeland security, children’s health, and the opioid epidemic, need proper funding. DACA needs a solution. The southern border needs securing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Members of the House, let’s work together and find reasonable compromises for these important issues. Let’s look at each other as honorable people.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO GET BACK TO WORK

(Mr. RYAN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this is about Members of Congress doing their job.

The number one function of a Congress is to put out a budget. This Congress spent the last 6 to 8 months giving away \$2 trillion to the wealthiest people in the country, and now we come to do a budget and say: Well, we don’t have any money.

We have priorities here, and it is about taking care of people who are getting hurt.

It is about a gentleman who drove a truck for 40 years, missing baseball games and soccer matches because he was on the road. Now that he needs his pension, it is cut in half, and this Congress isn’t doing a damn thing about it.

It is about the coal miner who climbed into a dirty hole for 40 years and now wants a pension. The Republican leadership here is absent.

It is about healthcare for kids, and it is about 11 million kids who are going to law school, going to college, going to med school, and all they want is a chance to sleep good at night.

This Congress needs to get back to work.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 20, 2018.

Speaker PAUL D. RYAN,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: In light of media reports with regards to a settlement reached between my office and a former employee, I hereby resign from the House Committee on Ethics effective January 20, 2018.

Throughout this process, I have been in communication with the Committee and sought to handle a difficult matter ethically, appropriately and in accordance with guidance issued by the Committee. All actions were taken on the advice of the House Employment Counsel and I firmly deny the nature of the allegations made in this claim.

However, with a great respect for the integrity of the Committee, and the absolute need for any subsequent investigation of this matter to be beyond doubt and above reproach, I feel it is best for me to remove myself from the Committee at this time.

Sincerely,

PATRICK MEEHAN,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I

send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 710

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS: Mr. Ratcliffe.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 53 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1731

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE) at 5 o’clock and 31 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2018.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 22, 2018, at 5:06 p.m.:

That the Senate agree to the amendment of House of Representatives to the Senate amendment with an amendment H.R. 195.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 33.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

MAKING IN ORDER CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 195, FEDERAL REGISTER PRINTING SAVINGS ACT OF 2017

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order